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NOTES AND ABSTRACTS

Courses in Criminology and Mental Hygiene.—Dr. Ernest Bryant Hoag, Director, Dr. Rufus B. von KleinSmid, Judge Bertin A. Weyl, Dr. Edward Huntington Williams, Dr. Miriam Van Waters, Mr. W. H. Holland, Lecturers.

These two courses, Criminology and Mental Hygiene, while related in some respects, are in the main different in character and content.

Criminology.

The work in criminology will lay special emphasis on juvenile delinquency not only as it is actually encountered in the home, the school, and the court, but more particularly as it is related to conditions in which it originates. Prevention will be the keynote of the course. In this connection special studies will be made of the problems of feeble-mindedness, juvenile insanity, epilepsy, unstable personalities, and the general problems of mental complexes which result in such conditions as lying, truancy, stealing, arson, and various other forms of misbehavior. The problem of the pre-delinquent child, his recognition and correction will be particularly stressed. Los Angeles affords unusual opportunities for institutional visits and clinical studies in juvenile delinquencies. The consideration of adult crime will not be neglected. In this connection special lectures will be offered by President von KleinSmid of the University of Southern California, an authority on criminology in general. Lectures will also be given by Mr. W. H. Holland, Chief Probation Officer of the Los Angeles Juvenile Court, Dr. Miriam Van Waters, Referee of the Girls' Court, Judge Bertin Weyl, of the Superior Court, Juvenile and Psychopathic Divisions.

Mental Hygiene.

In this course the subject matter will be presented from two points of view—that of the public, and that of the individual. In this respect mental hygiene is comparable with physical hygiene with its special problems of public health and personal health. The great social problems of mental hygiene include those of pauperism, criminality, prostitution, feeble-mindedness, insanity, and the like. The personal problems include a study of the elements of heredity, environment, and the education of the individual, those elements which make or mar his personality. The principles of the new mental hygiene concern no one more than college students, teachers, and social workers, and it is to these that this course will be particularly directed.

Some of the main topics to be presented:

The problem of heredity.

The problem of environment.

Elements entering into personality.

Educational relations to mental hygiene.

The bases of various nervous disorders, including particularly those originating in various fears.

The causes, control and prevention of insanity.

A discussion of abnormal personalities not included in the above.

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Dr. Edward Huntington Williams, a distinguished writer on mental hygiene and other medical subjects, will contribute several lectures in this course.

Digest of Report on Survey of the Cook County Jail (Chicago).—Recommendations for a new jail of the detention cottage type, inexpensive brick construction, three or four stories high, rather than the monumental structure of the ordinary jail type, built of stone and steel, with separate detention homes for women and for boys under twenty-one years of age, with important recommendations for restricting the jail population and reducing the period of detention, are the outstanding features of the jail survey made by the Chicago Community Trust and presented to President Ryan, of the Board of County Commissioners.

The Directors and Advisory Council of the Community Trust include:

Clifford W. Barnes, Chairman
Bernard A. Eckhart, Vice-Chairman
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The survey, which was made on request of the county commissioners, has been directed by Dr. George W. Kirchwey, formerly Dean of the Columbia University Law School, with the assistance of several experts, among whom were Winthrop D. Lane of New York, who reported on the Physical and Living Conditions of the Jail; Mrs. Kenneth F. Rich, who made a comprehensive study of the Detention of the Woman Offender; Dr. R. B. Preble and Dr. Joseph L. Miller, who reported on Health and Medical Conditions in the Jail; a committee of the Chicago Dietetic Association which reported on Food Conditions; John L. Whitman, State Superintendent of Prisons, on the Disposal of the Surplus Population of the County Jail. There are reports, also, on Jail Reports and Records and the results of a Character Study of the Jail Population and of the Bail Bond System by Arthur L. Beeley of Chicago University. The complete report consists of more than 300 typewritten pages.

The survey was thus a co-operative enterprise carried on by a considerable group of workers, aided by an advisory committee of experts, with Prof. Robert H. Gault of Northwestern University, chairman, and by numerous local organizations.

The keynote of Dean Kirchwey's report is struck in the words: "The Cook County Jail is not a place of punishment." He goes on as follows: "It is a place of detention for persons, innocent and guilty, who are under suspicion of having committed criminal offenses and who are unable to secure bail. Whatever the practice may be, this, at least, is the theory." "This," he declares, "is the significant fact which furnishes the clue to any study of the jail problem."

The report then goes on to give the history of the jail and refers to the conditions of filth, disease and overcrowding which have made it a place of